

44411
ESSEX EDUCATION COMMITTEE

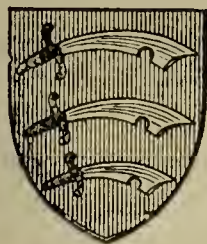
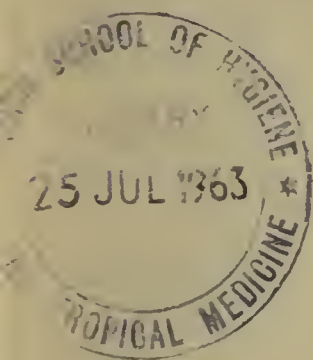
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE

YEAR 1946



CHELMSFORD :

Printed by John Dutton Ltd., 8, Tindal Street' Chelmsford .



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29195287>

Preface

To the Chairman and Members of the Essex Education Committee.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Education, I have the honour to submit to you the 38th Annual Report of the School Health Service for the year ended 31st December, 1946, for the Administrative County of Essex.

At the special request of the Ministry of Education, the Report is, as in previous years, confined to a brief summary of the essential statistics and changes.

The delay, which has again occurred in the production of the Report and which is due to shortage and changes of staff, and the task of reorganizing the services and initiating the Divisional Administration Scheme, does give me an opportunity of surveying the work which has been done by the Committee in connection with the health of school children since the end of the war.

The medical, dental, nursing and medical auxiliary staff required has been reviewed on two occasions, first in February, 1946, and on the second occasion in January, 1948, and provision has been made for the necessary appointments to be made as and when candidates are available. Considerable difficulty has, however, been experienced in implementing the approved proposals because of the shortage of qualified staff of all descriptions throughout the country.

The Committee agreed to extend the facilities for school medical inspection and treatment to all pupils attending Independent and Direct Grant Schools at which County Special Place holders attend and also approved in principle to extension to other private schools when the staffing position was more favourable.

Towards the latter part of 1946, the Committee gave consideration to the establishment of a comprehensive dental service for the benefit of school children, reference to which is made in the body of the Report.

A scheme for Child Guidance was also considered and approved, and clinics supplementary to those which were already in existence in Walthamstow and Colchester are being established as and when opportunity offers under the expert guidance of Dr. Alan Maberly.

The question of the arrangements which were to be made with voluntary and other hospitals in order to give effect to the requirement of the 1944 Act that all school children were to be provided with free medical treatment received much attention during the latter part of the year 1946 and, after considering the suggestions which were put forward as a result of negotiations with the British Hospitals Association and other interested bodies, the Com-

mittee approved of initial arrangements for implementing the requirements of the Act. These have been kept under constant review since and have been amended from time to time as necessity arose. On 5th July, 1948, of course, the responsibility for the provision of the necessary Specialist and in-patient treatment was, in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, handed over to the Regional Hospital Boards with whom close liaison is maintained in regard to all matters affecting the health of school children.

This provision of free medical treatment, together with the provision of free milk to school children, the introduction of family allowances, and the intention of the Government to provide free mid-day meals when school canteen facilities are adequate, form part of the first instalment of the new social order envisaged by the trend of recent legislation.

Reference appears in this Report in regard to the development plan for special educational treatment for handicapped children. Much consideration was given during 1946 to the preparation of this plan in order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements were made in respect to the special education of all classes of handicapped pupils. The Report was considered by the Committee in December, 1946, and its implementation began in the following year. Two of the schemes which have been put into operation in succeeding years are the establishment of orthoptic clinics and the making of provision for the testing of hearing by gramophone audiometer.

It will be appreciated that the development of the service on the lines indicated above over a period of nearly three years has involved a great deal of administrative work and the School Health Department feels itself fortunate to have had the guidance, support and assistance of the present Chairman of the Special Services Committee of the Education Committee, Councillor Mrs. A. E. Hardy, who, like her predecessors in office, has been always most readily available for consultation and to give advice. To her and all members of her Committee, I again wish to express my sincere thanks. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee, the Chief Education Officer and his staff, head teachers, and the medical, dental, nursing and clerical staffs for invaluable co-operation and assistance.

I would also put on record my thanks to Dr. J. W. Pickup and later Dr. F. J. G. Lishman, Senior Medical Officers for Schools, for the fine work they carried out in respect to the School Health Service.

W. A. BULLOUGH,
School Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNTY HALL,
CHELMSFORD.

December, 1948.

ESSEX EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for the Year 1946.

1. Introduction.

This report, on the suggestion of the Ministry of Education, is confined to a brief report on the work carried out in the School Health Service during the year 1946.

Reports have also been submitted by the Borough School Medical Officers of the Excepted Districts of Barking, Ilford, Leyton and Walthamstow to the respective Committees for Education.

Under the Education Act, 1944, which came into force on 1st April, 1945, there are six Excepted Districts viz., the Boroughs of Barking, Dagenham, Ilford, Leyton, Romford and Walthamstow and the remainder of the County under the Essex (County Council) Education Divisional Administration Scheme, 1945, is divided into five Divisions, viz., Forest, Mid-Essex, North-East Essex, South Essex and South-East Essex.

2. School Population.

At the end of the year the school population was 174,879 with an average attendance of 151,446.

3. Staff.

Several changes of staff occurred during the year. A number of members of the staff returned from the Forces, including Dr. J. W. Pickup, Senior Medical Officer for schools, who was demobilised in August.

The following Medical Officers were appointed as Borough or Acting Divisional School Medical Officers :—

Borough School Medical Officers.

Excepted District.				Name.
Barking	..	..	..	Dr. C. Leonard Williams.
Dagenham	..	..	..	Dr. C. E. Herington.
Ilford	..	..	..	Dr. J. H. Weir.
Leyton	..	..	..	Dr. A. W. Forrest.
Romford	..	..	..	Dr. J. B. Samson.
Walthamstow	..	..	..	Dr. A. T. W. Powell.

Each of these Medical Officers is also Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

Acting Divisional School Medical Officers.

Division.				Name.
South Essex	..	..	..	Dr. W. T. G. Boul.
South-East Essex	..	..	..	Dr. N. S. R. Lorraine.
Forest	..	..	..	Dr. F. G. Brown.

In the Mid-Essex and North East Essex Divisions, it was recommended that Dr. J. Mervyn Thomas and Dr. J. D. Kershaw should be appointed respectively as Acting Divisional School Medical Officers and it is hoped these will take over this duty during 1947.

The Committee agreed that the strength of the staff be increased to the following standard, as staff became available :—Medical Officers, 1 whole-time officer to 6,000 school population ; School Nurses, 1 to 1,500 ; Dental Officers, 1 to 2,000 ; and Dental Attendants, 1 to 2,000.

4. Medical Inspections.

The co-ordination between the medical and nursing staffs of the Public Health and School Health Services continued.

In spite of shortage of staff, inspections of the routine groups of children were carried out. Under the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Services Regulations, 1945, children are inspected in the following routine groups :—

- (i) During the first year of school attendance ;
- (ii) during the last year at the primary school ; and
- (iii) during the last year at the secondary school.

This is a minimum requirement of the Ministry of Education and it is hoped to arrange additional inspections when more staff is available. In Barking, arrangements are made for an annual inspection of pupils.

Pupils attending the secondary grammar schools are examined on entrance and at 12 and 15 years of age.

The Committee considered the question under Section 78 (2) of the Education Act, 1944, of arrangements with the proprietors of Schools not maintained by them and stated their willingness to enter into such arrangements for medical inspection and treatment of pupils attending such schools at which County Special Place holders attend. Negotiations are in hand for extending the School Health facilities to those schools during 1947. It was considered that facilities could not be extended to other schools until more staff was available.

It will be noticed from Table I that there is a slight increase in the number of inspections, 60,759 as against 58,786 in the routine groups and 66,208 specials as against 60,503 in 1945.

5. Treatment.

Ministry of Education Circular 102, dated 9th May, 1946, deals with the payment of fees to voluntary hospitals for the medical treatment of school children under Section 48 (3) of the Education Act, 1944. After consideration of the Circular, the Committee recommended that approval be given in principle to the recommendations contained in this circular relating to :—

- (a) payments by authorities to the voluntary hospitals for treatment of pupils attending maintained schools ;

- (b) remuneration of consulting surgeons and physicians employed by Local Education Authorities on a part-time basis; and
- (c) remuneration of the visiting medical staffs of voluntary hospitals for their services in respect of pupils for whose maintenance and treatment at hospital the Authorities have accepted responsibility.

Negotiations with the British Hospitals Association and other interested bodies are taking place in regard to the implementation of the recommendations in Circular 102 and will be referred to in next year's report.

(a) *Minor Ailments.* At the 68 minor ailment clinics there were 60,722 attendances.

(b) *Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions.* During the year 1,782 children received operative treatment at the various hospitals under the County Scheme for the removal of tonsils and adenoids, and 2,325 received other forms of treatment. Great difficulty is still experienced in obtaining operative treatment due to call on hospital services.

In Barking the number of school children treated at the clinic showed a decrease, 897 attendances being made as against 1,101 in the previous year. 251 children received operative treatment as recommended by Mr. Courtenay Mason, F.R.C.S., the Consultant Specialist, as against 263 in 1945.

In Ilford, 750 individual children made 1,112 attendances at the aural clinic, of which Mr. W. Ibbotson, F.R.C.S., is in charge. 224 children received operative treatment.

In Leyton 38 children received operative treatment.

At Walthamstow, 38 cases of acute Otitis Media, 10 of chronic suppurative Otitis Media, 372 nose and throat conditions and 99 miscellaneous cases were seen at the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics. 107 received operative treatment under the Authority's Scheme.

In the rest of the County, 11 Ascertainment Clinics were held by Mr. H. Alexander Cowan, F.R.C.S. 265 children were examined and 166 received operative treatment.

(c) *Skin Conditions.* A number of children with skin conditions were referred to the Skin Specialist, Dr. Arthur Burrows, at Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford, for advice. A number of children also received X-ray treatment for Ringworm of the Scalp at the London Hospital and Queen's Hospital for Children at Hackney.

(d) *Dental Defects.* The following is an extract from a report submitted by Mr. S. K. Donaldson, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer :—

The year 1946 commenced with a dental staff of approximately 20 Dental Officers, exclusive of the Barking Area, and there was every prospect of this number being increased. Following the comprehensive report on dentistry which was presented in March and subsequently adopted, the establishment for the School Health Dental Service was fixed at 110 full-time Dental Officers or their equivalent.

Efforts were consequently made to recruit new members in addition to absorbing officers returning from service with H.M. Forces. This operation, however, turned out to be slow and was adversely governed by two factors—(1) the reluctance of officers to settle down to a salary lower than that they had been enjoying whilst on Service ; and (2) the difficulty presenting in regard to housing. New recruits could not find living accommodation and officers returning from H.M. Forces were, in quite a number of instances, unable to regain possession of their homes which had been let during the war years. Consequently many of the former declined appointment and a number of the latter resigned to take up posts where living accommodation could be found usually with relatives. These factors consequently created a very unstable position throughout the year under review, and at the peak period of staffing there was never more than the equivalent of approximately 34 Dental Officers employed in the Administrative County.

More regular opportunity for treatment has created a greater demand for treatment, as examination of the figures will show, and it is to be noted with satisfaction that the greatest increase is in the total number of fillings inserted. The inspection of children was increased by some 13,000 to a total of 69,923, but, with all that, routine annual inspection of all children is not yet possible. Of that number, 39,791 or 56.9 per cent. required treatment, of whom 73.4 per cent. were treated, necessitating just over two visits per patient. The ratio of 3.7 fillings for every tooth extracted is not so good as in the previous year but this can be explained by the greater amount of time being devoted to saving of the temporary dentition and also by the fact that the recommencement of inspections in areas which had not received attention during hostilities produced cases of dental neglect. Furthermore, it is unfortunately true that patients in these areas do not readily accept dental treatment until they have been re-educated by good work and regular opportunity for treatment.

Other operations show a remarkable increase and it is of interest to note that these other operations present a high proportion of orthodontic treatment. This department of dentistry will continue to grow. Apart from the hereditary influences and habits of early years, which will continue to exert an unfavourable influence on the growth of the jaws and teeth, that caries can never be controlled until there is a speedy and regular repair of the breakdown of both temporary and permanent dentitions. On the other hand the orthodontist would put the blame the other way round ; hence the futility of regarding them as separate problems and the remedy can only be found by planned campaign.

Ability to carry out the demands for treatment will of course be dependent on the number and type of staff available.

The year 1946 also saw the National Service Act become law and this Act makes for increasing obligations on the part of the Local Health Authority.

With the rising post war birth rate, the calls of the dental staff for Maternity and Child Welfare Dentistry became increasingly great. All the full-time officers of the staff gave approximately 10 per cent. of their time to this work and the scheme put forward to the Ministry of Health budgeted for a total of approximately 32 extra full-time Dental Officers or their equivalent.

In the knowledge of the difficulty that this would entail if reliance were to be put on recruitment of full-time officers, an attempt was made to enlist private practitioners on a sessional basis. Due, however, to the dispute between the Ministry of Health and the profession on the Dental Benefit Regulations, this met with negligible success.

Much has been said in regard to the improvement in the dentition of children during the war years, attributed in most cases to the absence of sweets. I can hardly look on sweets with the disfavour affected by some, provided the sweets are given at the proper time. Rather do I regard them as a valuable source of energy and encouragement to a jaded appetite in times of scarcity and lack of variety.

The other services in the County which in the past have been catered for by the County dental staff have been maintained during the year.

(e) *Crippling Defects.* Ascertainment and treatment continued as in previous years.

In Barking, Mr. A. M. A. Moore, F.R.C.S., the Consultant Specialist, held 17 sessions for the purpose of consultations, and 776 sessions were held by the Physiotherapists. Owing to the scarcity of Physiotherapists it was not possible to maintain the establishment of three during the year and for some months only one such member was employed. There were 5,250 attendances as against 5,381 the previous year, 892 children received treatment as against 722, and three were admitted to hospital.

In Ilford, 77 sessions were held, 1,120 children were treated, making a total attendance of 2,191; six children were admitted to hospital and 46 appliances were supplied. Mr. J. A. McLaughlin, M.D., F.R.C.S., was in charge of the Orthopædic Clinics.

In Leyton, 195 examinations were carried out by Mr. B. Whitechurch Howell, F.R.C.S., 216 children were treated, making an attendance of 1,793; eight children were admitted to hospital and 88 appliances supplied.

In Walthamstow 671 children were examined by Mr. B. Whitechurch Howell, F.R.C.S., this included 257 under school age. 1,570 treatments were given; 2,422 attendances were made for after care; 2,776 ultra-violet light treatments were given. 13 inspections and 428 treatment sessions were held. Eight children were admitted to hospital.

In the remainder of the County 65 Ascertainment Clinics were held at which 1,656 attendances were made. 59 children received periods of hospital treatment

and 7,695 attendances were made at the After Care Clinics. Mr. A. M. A. Moore, F.R.C.S., Mr. B. Whitechurch Howell, F.R.C.S. and Mr. T. A. Ogilvie, F.R.C.S., were the Orthopædic Surgeons.

(f) *Heart Conditions.* At Ilford 246 children made 461 attendances at the Rheumatism Clinic, Dr. K. Playfair being the physician in charge.

At Walthamstow 133 children attended the Rheumatism Clinic, Dr. W. P. H. Sheldon being the physician in charge until October when he was compelled, owing to pressure of work, to resign. Dr. Cary Wilmers was appointed to succeed.

One hundred and six children were referred to the Cardiac Clinic at Oldchurch County Hospital, Romford, for examination by Dr. Williams Evans. Restriction of exercise was advised in the case of 20.

(g) *Visual Defects.* In Barking, Mr. Adamson Gray, F.R.C.S., attended 200 sessions and examined 794 children for errors of refraction and 117 other cases. 492 children were prescribed and 600 obtained spectacles.

An Orthoptic Clinic is also held at Barking, 26 children making 582 attendances.

At Ilford 1,416 children made 2,206 attendances at the Eye Clinic, 734 children were prescribed and 728 provided with spectacles. Dr. F. J. Darbyshire, D.O.M.S., D.P.H., was in charge of the Clinic.

At Leyton 794 children made 1,130 attendances at the Eye Clinic for examination by Dr. Agnes L. Adam, D.O.M.S. 81 new cases were treated at the Squint Clinic; the total number of attendances was 1,161, 406 children were prescribed and furnished with spectacles.

At Walthamstow, 516 new cases were examined by Dr. M. Shepherd, and these, as well as the ordinary periodical inspections, made 2,856 attendances. 559 were prescribed and provided with spectacles. At the Orthoptic Clinic there were 134 new cases and a total of 1,051 attendances.

As regards the remainder of the County, the work was carried out by Mr. T. Collyer Summers, F.R.C.S., Consultant Ophthalmologist, and the Ophthalmic Specialists. Dr. A. H. Staples, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S., was appointed full-time Medical Officer for Ophthalmic work in May, 1946, and the part-time services of Miss L. H. Macfarlane, M.D., D.P.H., D.O.M.S. and Messrs. W. Glasse Watson, M.B., D.O.M.S., G. T. Foster Smith, M.B., B.S., J. E. Bendor Samuel, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. and J. Graham White, M.D., continued to be available. Drs. E. J. Baldwin, D.O.M.S. and J. G. Corner, D.O.M.S., resigned in May, 1946.

In the whole of the County 6,751 children were examined for errors of refraction, 2,737 children were prescribed and 2,760 provided with spectacles.

(h) *Speech Defects.* The year 1946 has seen a marked increase in the amount of speech therapy carried out in the county, although there is a shortage of trained Speech Therapists due to the greater demand imposed by the Education Act, 1944.

The Ministry of Education have indicated that one Speech Therapist should be appointed for every 10,000 children. This implies a total of 18 Speech Therapists, and the County Council have approved an establishment of this figure.

In accordance with Schemes of Divisional Administration the day to day administration has been passed to Divisional Executives, Staffing changes among Speech Therapists for the year are set out below :—

FOREST DIVISION.

Miss S. D. Weller was appointed for part-time work in the Division as from the 7th May, 1946, but resigned the position as from the 13th July, 1946, for personal reasons. Miss D. A. Leather, who had resigned from her post in Leyton earlier in the year owing to ill health, commenced duty on the 16th September, 1946, in a part-time capacity. With the appointment of a part-time Speech Therapist to this area, it was possible to open clinics at Epping and Buckhurst Hill, in addition to the clinic at Woodford.

NORTH EAST ESSEX DIVISION.

Miss M. J. Berryman resigned as from October 31st, 1946; the vacancy has not yet been filled.

SOUTH-EAST ESSEX DIVISION.

The Authority secured the part-time services of Mrs. T. D. F. Randall, who commenced duty on the 2nd September, 1946. This brought the Speech Therapy Service to a part of the County not previously served, clinics being established at Billericay, Laindon and Wickford.

SOUTH ESSEX DIVISION.

Owing to reorganization in other Divisions it has been possible for Miss R. Brewitt to give all her time to the South Essex Division, and consequently two further clinics have been opened, one at Grays, which has relieved the Upminster Clinic which had long waiting lists, and one at Brentwood, an area not previously served.

ROMFORD AND MID-ESSEX.

Miss E. Brewitt, whose services has been shared on a fifty-fifty basis with the Southend Authority was appointed by the County on a full time basis on the 1st April, 1946, when she was able to devote her time to clinics in Romford and Chelmsford.

ILFORD.

Miss P. M. Lough was appointed as Speech Therapist to the Borough Committee for Education on the 29th April, 1946, this being the first appointment for the Borough.

WALTHAMSTOW.

Miss C. Gregory was appointed as from the 1st April, 1946, vice Miss Knight, resigned.

LEYTON.

Miss E. J. Green was appointed on the 7th January, 1946, vice Miss D. A. Leather, resigned.

(i) *Diabetics.* A number of diabetic children were provided with insulin free of charge during the year.

(j) *Child Guidance.* As stated in the 1944 Report, a joint Conference of the Education and Public Health Committees considered a scheme for the establishment of a child guidance service. At this Conference, a report prepared by Dr. Alan Maberly, of the Provisional National Council for Mental Health, arising out of a report on the Psychological Service submitted by the Chief Education Officer, was discussed. It was decided to defer the matter until more staff was available but, in the meantime, the appointment of an Educational Psychologist was agreed and in 1945 Miss E. M. Bartlett was appointed.

In his report, Dr. Maberly recommended the establishment of five clinics staffed by the equivalent of five whole-time psychologists, dividing their time between the educational service and the Clinics, and ten whole-time psychiatric social workers. Each clinic should be under the clinical direction of the psychiatrist and the clinics and staff under the supervision of the School Medical Officer. Whole-time clinics were recommended at Ilford, Chelmsford and Colchester and, in addition, the alternative of two travelling teams or utilization of existing clinics in neighbouring areas. The existing arrangements at the time of the report were the utilization of the services of clinics in neighbouring areas.

When the Education Act 1944 came into force on 1st April, 1945, the Child Guidance Clinics at Colchester and Walthamstow became part of the County arrangements as far as school children were concerned.

During 1946, the Education Committee again considered the question and agreed that steps be taken to implement the proposals for the establishment of a comprehensive clinic by convenient stages.

The following proposals for the initial implementation of the policy adopted were agreed :—

(1) NORTH-EAST ESSEX DIVISION.

(a) *Colchester Clinic.* The provision of more suitable premises and the strengthening of the staff by the appointment of Psychiatrists and Play Therapists for up to eight sessions per week, a Psychologist and a Clerk.

(b) *Hostel.* The obtaining of premises for a Hostel for maladjusted pupils when the clinic is adequately staffed and housed.

(2) MID-ESSEX DIVISION.

(a) *Clinic.* Negotiations to be entered into for the use of certain premises at Chelmsford for a clinic. The appointment of Psychiatrists and Play Therapists up to eight sessions per week, a Psychologist, a Psychiatric Social Worker and a Clerk.

(b) *Hostel.* The obtaining of premises for a Hostel.

(3) WALTHAMSTOW EXCEPTED DISTRICT.

The strengthening of the staff at the West Essex Child Guidance Clinic at Walthamstow so as to enable it to serve a wider area, the basis of the staff to be the following full-time officers :—1 Psychiatrist ; 2 Psychologists ; 2 Psychiatric Social Workers ; 1 Play Therapist and 1 Clerk.

Dr. Maclean continued to carry out some Child Guidance work at Romford.

(k) *Uncleanliness*. There does not appear to have been any increase in the number of cases of uncleanliness—again it is usually the “old offenders” who are the cause of the trouble. Steel combs are supplied at various centres at cost price and on loan in cases of necessity. The two Lay assistants again assisted in this work.

(l) *General*. Dr. K. Tallerman’s services as County Consultant Pædiatrician were available for advice in the case of school children.

6. Infectious Diseases.

No serious epidemic was reported amongst school children during the year. Clinic and school premises and medical and nursing staffs were again placed at the disposal of the county district authorities and the Committee have approved the launching of a campaign in schools in connection with the immunization of children against diphtheria.

7. Nutritional Defects and Provision of Meals.

Table II shows that 95.01 per cent. of the children examined in the routine age groups were of excellent or normal nutrition.

The upward trend in the proportion of children taking meals and milk continued during 1946 and the number of School Departments receiving meals increased from 707 to 781 during the year.

The percentages of the number of children present receiving school meals and milk were as follows :—

		February 1946.		June 1946.		October 1946.		February 1947.
Meals	..	52.0	..	53.3	..	57.1	..	58.5
Milk	..	74.4	..	72.1	..	91.2	..	88.3

The increase of nearly 20 per cent between June and October in the number of children taking milk was no doubt due to the decision of the Ministry of Education to provide milk free of charge as from 1st August, 1946.

The percentages of children receiving milk and school meals for England and Wales over the period were as follows :—

			February 1946.		February 1947.
Meals	..	..	40.7	..	49.4
Milk	..	..	71.6	..	87.2

In February 1947, an average of over 86,000 meals was being served daily in Essex Schools.

8. Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.

(a) The School Nurses continue to visit and report on the homes of all prospective foster-parents and these reports are carefully considered before approval is granted. The School Nurses also continue to visit and report quarterly on boarded-out children.

(b) *Harold Wood Home.* Dr. A. R. Forbes continued to keep this school under observation and examined all entrants and discharges.

During the year 261 boys were admitted, the average daily number being 28. During the first 14 days of January, 15 cases of Influenza occurred. The illness in every case was of sudden onset, attacks were sharp but short, and no complications developed.

Two boys developed Scarlet Fever, the first on 19th March, the second on 3rd April, i.e. 17 days after the first boy had been removed to hospital.

One boy developed Ringworm of scalp and received X-ray treatment at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Shadwell, under the County Scheme for Treatment of this condition.

(c) *Chafford Approved School.* Dr. Forbes also continued to keep this school under observation and reports as follows :—

The school was due to vacate the premises at Coxtie Green so that admissions were few.

The average number of boys during the first half of the year was 58.

On 31st July, the new permanent school was opened at Ramsey, Harwich, but only half the number of pupils could be accommodated (28), so the school was split up into two groups, one at Ramsey, the other at Coxtie Green. Boys were sent on licence from the latter group and numbers were slowly reduced.

One boy, who had suffered severely from Asthma from an early age and who had been discharged on this account from another approved school, developed Pneumonia and Lung Abscess and was treated for some months at Oldechurch Hospital and later at the London Chest Hospital. He made an excellent recovery and returned to school.

(d) *Remand Home for Girls.* A Remand Home for Girls was opened at Great Baddow in July, 1945. Arrangements were made for this home to be kept under observation by a member of the County Medical Staff.

9. Special Schools.

The Committee adopted for submission to the Ministry of Education a Development Plan for special educational treatment for Handicapped Pupils, which provides for establishment of new special schools, and enlargement of existing special schools.

(a) *Dagenham Heathway Special School for Educationally Sub-normal and Physically Handicapped Children.* Dr. A. R. Forbes, who acts as Medical Officer to this school, reports as follows :—

The year opened with 152 pupils on the register (43 physically handicapped and 109 educationally sub-normal).

During the year 14 children were admitted to the Physically Handicapped Department and 38 children were admitted to the Educationally Sub-normal Department.

In the case of the Physically Handicapped Department, 11 pupils were discharged, 1 returning to the Ordinary School and the others being given permission to leave on reaching age 14 to begin work. With regard to the Educationally sub-normal children, 20 pupils left during the year, of these three left on reaching age 16. Five were given permission to leave before school leaving age, four at age 14, one at age 15. Three were excluded having been found ineducable after trial. Two boys were excluded because of behaviour problems under section 57 (4) of the Education Act, 1944.

One boy was transferred to a Residential Special School.

One boy was sent to an Approved School by Juvenile Court.

One boy returned to Ordinary School.

One boy removed from district.

Two boys ceased attendance.

One girl was excluded temporarily—a child who developed schizophrenia at age three.

(b) *Grays Open Air School.* 79 children were in attendance during the course of the year. There were 24 new admissions and 27 discharges. Of the latter, 15 resumed attendance at an ordinary school, five left the district, six were over school age, five being fit for employment and one was sent to a Convalescent Home. The average length of stay for each child was two years nine months. On the last school day in December, 1946, there were 58 children ranging from 5 to 15 years of age in attendance.

The defects of the 79 children were classified as follows :—

				Boys.		Girls.
General—Debility and Malnutrition	..			4	..	6
Ear, Nose and Throat	..	..	..	4	..	3
Heart—						
Anæmia	..	..	..	5	..	4
Mitral Systolic Murmur	..	..	..	1	..	—
Congenital Heart Disease	..	..	..	—	..	1
Lungs—						
Asthma	..	..	..	9	..	4
Bronchitis	..	..	..	10	..	11
Bronchiectasis	..	..	..	2	..	2
Tuberculosis—						
T.B. Spine (Quiescent)	..	..	..	1	..	—
Hilar Adenitis (Quiescent)	..	..	..	—	..	3
Pulmonary Lesions (Quiescent)	..	..	..	2	..	—
Cervical Adenitis (Quiescent)	..	..	..	2	..	1
Deformities	..	..	..	1	..	1
Coeliac Disease	..	..	..	—	..	1
Encephalo Myocle	..	..	..	—	..	1
				—		—
				41	..	38
				—		—

The average increase in weight for the boys was 5 lbs. 4 ozs. with a corresponding average increase in height of 2 ins. In the case of the girls, the average increase of weight was 7 lbs. with a corresponding average increase in height of 2.4 ins.

The 79 children were distributed in the following localities :—

Aveley	1	Purfleet	1
Chadwell St. Mary ..	4	South Stifford ..	4
Fobbing	1	North Stifford ..	1
Grays	47	Tilbury	15
Horndon-on-the-Hill ..	1	West Thurrock ..	4
—		—	
54		25	
—		—	

One year after discharge, those children who resumed attendance at the ordinary school were invited with their parents to an After Care Medical Inspection at the Open Air School. The Medical Officer was, in almost every case, satisfied with the progress maintained. In three cases where there had been a deterioration in health, recommendation was made for re-admission to the Open Air School.

(c) *Barking Faircross Special School for Educationally Sub-normal, Physically Handicapped and Delicate Children.* Dr. C. Leonard Williams, Borough School Medical Officer, reports that this school continues to progress and the welfare of the children is under constant surveillance by the medical staff.

(d) *Ilford Benton Special Open Air School.* During the year 50 children were admitted, 46 ceased attendance and 84 were on the school roll on the 31st December, 1946.

(e) *Leyton Knotts Green Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils.* Admissions 16, Discharges 9.

(f) *Leyton Knotts Green Special School for Physically Handicapped Pupils.* Admissions 30. Discharges 23.

(g) *Walthamstow Special School for the Blind and Partially Sighted.* At the end of the year there was one blind girl, and 36 (19 boys and 17 girls) partially sighted children in attendance. Seven children have left, three have been de-certified and returned to an ordinary Elementary School. One blind girl went to an Institution for Blind Girls, one boy is an apprentice in a large Outfitters Stores, one girl is a shop assistant in a Drapery Store and one boy is learning to make leather goods in a small factory.

(h) *Walthamstow William Morris Special School for Deaf.* In January, 1946, there were 13 children on the roll—eleven deaf and two partially deaf. During the year two boys, both deaf, and one girl were admitted. At the end of the year there were fifteen children on the roll. The ages vary from two to fifteen years and teaching is individual, the Multitone apparatus being used where suitable.

(i) *Walthamstow Hale End Open Air School*. At the end of the year there were 70 children in attendance, classified as follows :—

Orthopædic 19 ; Debilitated 26 ; Cardiac 4 ; Epileptic 3 ; Asthma 18.

(j) *Walthamstow Special School (Shernhall Street) for Educationally Sub-normal Children*. During the year the school averaged 40 on roll. Seven boys left and most are in full employment.

(k) *Colchester Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Children*. The average number on Register was 29 and average attendance 25.

(2) RESIDENTIAL.

Children are sent to various Residential Special Schools in the country as vacancies occur. The principal schools are the East Anglian School for Blind and Deaf, Gorleston, and the Royal Eastern Counties Institution Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Children, Colchester, at both of which the Committee have a certain number of places. Many other children are sent to other special residential schools and convalescent homes. The assistance rendered by the Invalid Children's Aid Association in obtaining vacancies is appreciated in this connection, but shortage of accommodation, particularly in the case of multiple defects, epileptics, enuretics, etc., renders it difficult in many cases to secure places.

10. Nursery Schools.

Medical and nursing supervision of the three Nursery Schools at Dagenham continued.

The Walthamstow Nursery School at Low Hall Lane is also under regular observation by the school medical and nursing staff.

The Chelmsford Corporation Road and London Road Nursery Schools are also under such supervision.

11. Camp Schools.

The Education Committee have on lease the following four Camp Schools from the National Camps Corporation :—

Hydon Heath, near Godalming.

Kennylands, near Reading.

Itchingfield, Sussex.

Elmbridge, near Guildford.

The camps each accommodate about 240 children and are available for children primarily of secondary school age for a period of at least four weeks at a time from various parts of the County, except in the case of Elmbridge Camp School at which the pupils attend for the whole of their secondary school life. Arrangements are made for parties to be sent regularly from all areas of the County. There is a Residential School Nurse at each camp and the services of a local medical practitioner are available for any medical attention.

12. Health Education—Propaganda.

The arrangements as outlined in my previous reports continued, and during the year lectures were given to Youth Centres, Clubs, etc., as below :—

Friends Hall Youth Club, Walthamstow.
Tipton's Youth Club, Dagenham.
Ilford Detachment of the Red Cross.
Senior Girls, High School, Romford.
Public Youth Course, Woodford.
Public Youth Course, Wanstead.
Friends Youth Club, Barking.
Marsh Street Youth Centre, Walthamstow.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1946.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

(1) No. of Inspections :—

Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	20,822
Second Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	18,068
Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	18,826
Total	..	..	..	..	..	57,716

(2) No. of other Routine Inspections 3,043

Grand Total 60,759

B. Other Inspections.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-inspections 66,208

TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE
YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

<i>Number Pupils Inspected.</i>	<i>A (Excellent)</i>		<i>B (Normal)</i>		<i>C (Slightly subnormal)</i>		<i>D (Bad)</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
60,759 ..	7,866 ..	12.95 ..	49,861 ..	82.06 ..	3,020 ..	4.97 ..	12 ..	00.02

TABLE III.

GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the
year under the Authority's Scheme 35,118

GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	9,274
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	1,190
Total	10,464

No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were—

(a) Prescribed	..	..	..	..	..	5,082
(b) Obtained	..	..	..	..	..	5,107

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received operative treatment	..	..	..	..	1,782
Received other forms of treatment	..	..	..	..	2,325
Total number treated	..	..	..	..	4,107

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Dentist—

(a) Routine age-groups	..	..	..	..	63,509
(b) Specials	..	..	..	..	6,414
(c) Total (Routine and Specials)	..	..	..	..	69,923

(2) Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	..	39,791
(3) Number actually treated	..	..	..	..	54,318
(4) Attendanees made by pupils for treatment	..	..	..	..	111,793
(5) Half-days devoted to—					
Inspection	..	..	..	..	548
Treatment	..	..	..	..	11,008
Total	..	..	..	..	11,556

(6) Fillings—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	39,384
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	17,246
Total	..	..	..	..	56,630

(7) Extractions—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	10,688
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	45,856
Total	..	..	..	..	56,544

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions .. 16,916

(9) Other operations—

Permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	17,252
Temporary teeth	..	..	..	..	6,200
Total	..	..	..	..	23,452

TABLE V.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1) Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses and other authorized persons	566,673
(2) Number of individual pupils found unclean	6,165

TABLE VI.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF.

AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1946 (EXCLUDING SPECIALISTS).

Name of Officer.	Proportion of whole time devoted to—	
	School Health Service.	Public Health.
	Percentage.	Percentage.
<i>School Medical Officer—</i>		
W. A. Bullough	20	80
<i>Deputy School Medical Officer—</i>		
G. G. Stewart	20	80
<i>Senior Medical Officer for Schools—</i>		
J. W. Pickup	100	—
<i>Borough School Medical Officers—</i>		
C. L. Williams (Barking)	25	75
C. E. Herington (Dagenham)	25	75
J. H. Weir (Ilford)	25	75
A. W. Forrest (Leyton)	25	75
J. B. Samson (Romford)	25	75
A. T. W. Powell (Walthamstow)	25	75
<i>Acting Divisional School Medical Officers—</i>		
W. T. G. Boul (South-Essex)	20	80
F. G. Brown (Forest)	20	80
N. S. R. Lorraine (South-East Essex)	20	80
*J. D. Kershaw (North-East Essex)	40	60
*J. M. Thomas (Mid-Essex)	38	62
<i>Assistant School Medical Officers—</i>		
W. H. Alderton	37	63
B. F. Beatson	40	60
W. M. Coppard (Mrs.)	55	45
E. L. Ewan	80	20
A. R. Forbes	65	35
D. Maclean (Miss) (Mrs. Short)	95	5
R. Meyer	20	80
M. D. Rankine (Miss)	70	30
M. Turner (Mrs.)	40	60

(*Sec note on page 4.)

Name of Officer.	Proportion of whole time devoted to—					
	School		Health Service.		Public Health	
	Percentage.		Percentage.		Percentage.	
D. E. C. Walker (Miss)	25	..	75
J. C. T. Fiddes	45	..	55
J. Ramsbottom	17	..	83
J. S. Ranson	18	..	82
S. R. Richardson	21	..	79
A. Seelig (Miss)	28	..	72
J. R. Hetherington	25	..	75
P. X. O'Dwyer	20	..	80
M. E. Fox (Miss)	10	..	—
R. W. J. A. Cushing	85	..	15
J. B. Ratcliffe (Mrs.)	45	..	30
W. J. Moffatt	9	..	91
J. Crosby	65	..	35
T. M. Phelps (Miss)	50	..	50
J. Lister (Miss)	100	..	—
M. Sutcliffe (Miss)	65	..	35
D. I. Mart (Miss)	30	..	70
A. P. Draper	90	..	10
J. T. Brown	9	..	91
D. C. Adam	36	..	64
F. F. Croft	20	..	—
A. E. Seligmann	50	..	50
E. Popper (Miss)	50	..	50
T. Forster	50	..	50
S. J. Pearson	50	..	50
I. Gordon	36	..	64
D. M. B. Gross (Miss)	45	..	55
F. E. O'Connor (Miss)	45	..	55
A. Collins (Miss)	54	..	46
L. Rich	36	..	64
J. Rennie (with Forces)	—	..	—
M. Gilchrist (Miss)	85	..	15
H. Menzies (Miss)	15	..	85
M. Watkins	45	..	55
M. Shepherd (Miss)	35	..	65
M. Edmonds (Mrs.)	75	..	25
C. G. Chadwick (Miss)	75	..	25
F. K. Bibby (Mrs.)	20	..	30
J. Hudson (Miss)	10	..	20
H. Franks (in Forces)	—	..	—
<i>Senior Dental Officer—</i>						
S. K. Donaldson	90	..	10

Name of Officer.	Proportion of whole time devoted to—					
	School		Health Service.		Public Health.	
			Percentage.		Percentage.	
<i>Assistant Dental Officers—</i>						
B. Connelly	90	10				
J. Edgar	90	10				
C. Grieshaber (Mrs.)	90	10				
H. C. Heighton	90	10				
A. M. Hughes	90	10				
D. W. Hurley	90	10				
E. Kimelman (Mrs.)	90	10				
E. E. Krott (Miss)	90	10				
C. Lane (Mrs.)	90	10				
S. N. Manning	90	10				
B. C. McKenzie	90	10				
O. R. Vignale	90	10				
R. Chase	65	—				
F. K. Johnson	36	—				
R. A. Pepper	65	—				
G. B. Player	28	—				
N. I. Shannon (Miss)	56	—				
L. G. Whelpton	18	—				
F. Maguire	90	10				
J. F. Godfrey	90	10				
P. Chandler	90	10				
D. Shirlaw (Mrs.)	90	10				
C. Sumsawaste	90	10				
A. Barry	90	10				
L. W. Elmer	100	—				
W. R. Thorne (Mrs.)	82	18				
G. P. Taylor	100	—				
C. Shamash	91	9				
R. V. Tait	100	—				
A. E. Hall	91	9				
J. E. Horton	100	—				
M. J. K. Soutter	73	27				
A. G. Clark	100	—				
E. V. Haigh	82	18				
A. R. Levy	90	10				
H. Cooke	90	10				
T. Black	90	10				
Perriman	90	10				

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF.

			Number of Officers.		Aggregate of time given to S.H.S. work in terms of whole-time officers
School Nurses	..	..	134	..	71
District Nurses	..	..	—	..	A grant of £1,000 per annum is paid to E.C.N.A. for services of District Nurses in assisting School Nurses in home visits, etc.
Nursing Assistants	..		2	..	1
Dental Attendants	..	..	35	..	31

